



Hands on Habitat

State of Idaho

What Are the Problems?

- **Dewatering and high water temps**
Water withdrawals for irrigation, as well as loss of streambank vegetation, have raised water temperatures to a level that is unhealthy for fish.
- **Passage impediments** Dams, diversions for irrigation, and road crossings limit fish access to upstream habitats.
- **Streambank degradation and erosion** Some land uses of streambanks and the drier land above them contribute to excessive sedimentation and degrade water quality.
- **Loss of habitat complexity**
Alterations to river floodplains and channels have eliminated important features in rivers that provide habitat for fish to rest, spawn, and rear their young.

Background

NOAA's restoration activities in Idaho focus on providing plenty of cool, clean water for fish, and working cooperatively with the agricultural community, which is central to the state's economy. NOAA Restoration Center supports voluntary, cooperative approaches to habitat restoration.

What We Do

- Protect and restore streambanks by fencing livestock and planting native vegetation
- Lease and acquire water rights
- Improve fish passage by removing dams and culverts
- Decommission and remove unnecessary roads
- Engage in community outreach and education about fisheries issues

How We Do It

NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program (CRP) achieves science-based habitat restoration through community involvement and stewardship. We build



powerful partnerships among public, private, and non-profit organizations throughout Idaho. Our projects continually demonstrate the benefits and effectiveness of locally based habitat conservation that starts at the headwaters of rivers in Idaho through the watershed to the Pacific coast.

Our Accomplishments

Since 1999, we have:

- Awarded nearly \$375,000 and leveraged more than \$825,000
- Funded 18 projects
- Completed 13 projects
- Restored more than 60 acres of habitat
- Engaged roughly 1,100 volunteers for 9,200 service hours through partner-led activities

Our Partners

NOAA works with 42 local, regional, and national organizations, tribes, schools, and businesses in Idaho. Major partners include Ecotrust, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Nez Perce Tribe, and American Rivers.

Our Focus

Reverse declines in salmon and steelhead populations due to habitat degradation and impacts from hydropower and irrigation

Contact

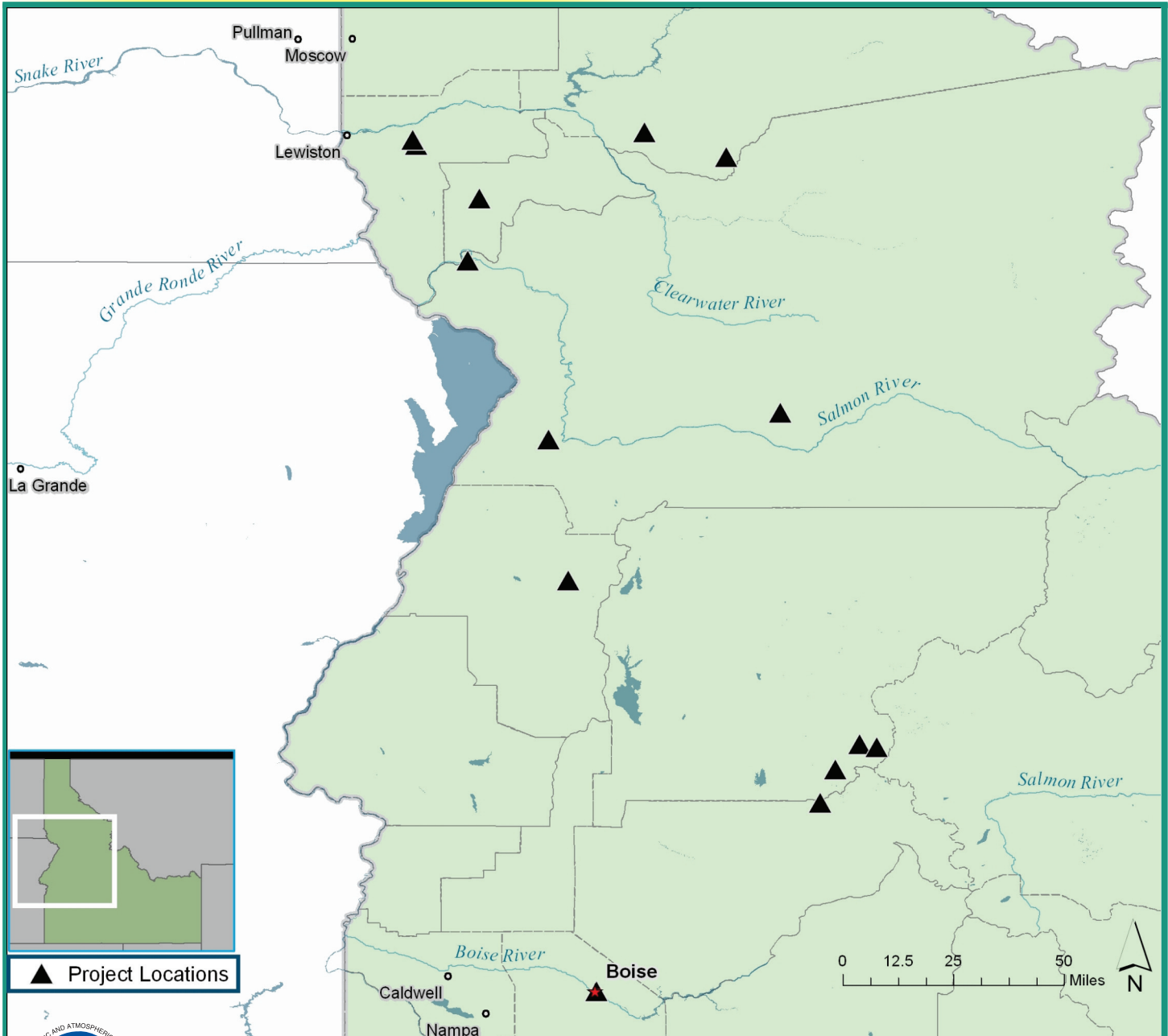
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NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program (CRP)

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SELECT COMMUNITY-BASED RESTORATION PROJECTS:

Bear Valley Creek Riparian Restoration, Lowman

Clearwater River Subbasin Community Restoration, Lapwai

Crooked Creek Irrigation Ditches, Stanley

East Fork Salmon River Restoration, Custer County

Fir Creek Campground Fencing, Stanley

Jim Brown Creek Streambank Stabilization, Lapwai

Lapwai Creek Riparian Restoration, Lapwai

Little Salmon River Restoration, New Meadows

Meadow Creek Riparian Restoration, Lapwai

Plant a Tree, Save a Fish (Salmon Corps), Lewis County

Squaw Creek Culvert Replacement Project, Riggins